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The American supreme court as an international tribunal. By Herbert A. Smith. (New York: Oxford university press, 1920, 120 p.)

The purpose of the author of this book is to show what light the experience of the supreme court in disposing of cases which have arisen between the states of the American union throws upon the problem of the judicial settlement of disputes between the nations of the world. A preliminary chapter deals with the origin of the supreme court and is followed by a careful analysis of the extent of the jurisdiction of that tribunal in cases to which a state is a party. The author then discusses the three types of interstate controversies which have arisen, i. e., boundary cases, actions to enforce state debts, and cases of injury by state action. He devotes a separate chapter to the problem of the enforcement of judgments against states. From this study the following conclusions are deduced: First, not all cases between nations can be settled judicially. Second, the existence of an international court will stimulate the practice of submitting controversies to judicial decision. Third, certain vital questions, such as the problem of insuring compliance with decrees, must be clearly provided for in advance. Finally, such a court must administer a definite and written system of international law.

While some of the author's statements are perhaps debatable, his treatment of cases is accurate and balanced. In connection, however, with the statement (p. 93) that the supreme court was never asked to decide "whether a state could lawfully secede from the Union" one would naturally expect to find an allusion to the case of Texas v. White (7 Wallace, 141) decided in 1868 in which the question was passed upon. The book is written in a clear and interesting style and should prove suggestive to students of international politics and useful to students of American constitutional history and law.

ROBERT EUGENE CUSHMAN

The frontier in American history. By Frederick Jackson Turner. (New York: Henry Holt and company, 1920, 375 p.)

For many years Mr. Turner's modesty has caused him to refuse the urgent appeals of his friends for the republication of his numerous essays on the frontier development. Finally, however, he has been persuaded to present in convenient form to his many students and admirers these collected essays. Every student of history must congratulate himself on their publication.

Mr. Turner occupies a unique position in the field of western American history. Before his day the west had many historians, most of them belonging to the large class of the untrained and unscientific; but even the scholarly Parkman and Winsor held a different place among the westerners than that which Mr. Turner has made for himself. They worked